

**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners  
May 21, 2004**

**Teleconference Minutes**

A teleconference for the Board of Medical Examiners was held at 10:00 a.m. in the Magnolia Room located on the First Floor of the Cordell Hull State Office Building on May 21, 2004.

**Members in attendance electronically:** Dr. Allen Edmonson and Dr. David Cunningham

**Member in attendance:** Dr. Subhi Ali

**Staff Present:** Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director;  
Robert J. Kraemer, Jr., General Counsel;  
Sandra Powell, Administrator, Marsha Arnold,  
Unit Manager, Mr. Harry Weddle, Office of  
General Counsel, Joseph Schmidt, Office of  
General Counsel

A roll call was held to determine if each participant could hear the response of the other. Ms. Arnold stated the meeting was being held to discuss summarily suspending the medical license of Dr. Sheran Yeates. Dr. Edmonson made a motion to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically and Dr. Cunningham seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Edmonson to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically by determining that the matter to be discussed met the following requirements: The subject matter required timely action, the physical presence of all members was not possible considering the period of time required for action, and the participation by some or all of the members of the board by electronic or other means was necessary. Dr. Cunningham seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Kraemer addressed the Board saying the state must prove that the health, safety and welfare of the public was in immediate jeopardy before Dr. Yeates' license could be summarily suspended. He then asked the members to elect a chair for the proceeding. Dr. Edmonson made a motion and Dr. Cunningham seconded that Dr. Ali chair the meeting. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt, attorney for the state, asked each board member if they had any prior knowledge of the proceedings about to be addressed. All members stated they had not. All participants were asked to identify themselves each time they spoke.

Mr. Schmidt made an opening statement and presented one witness supporting the state's allegations. The state's witnesses, a TBI agent, testified that Dr. Yeates had been under

surveillance by their office for some time. She testified that Dr. Yeates had permitted his patients and his office staff to reuse prescription medication. Additionally, Dr. Yeates and his office staff routinely administer "sinus cocktail" injections to patients without medical justification. Further, every Friday of every week, Dr. Yeates takes his office staff out to lunch where large amounts of alcohol are consumed. Following lunch, Dr. Yeates and his office staff return to the office and provide medical treatment to patients. Dr. Yeates engaged in sexual activities with female staff members during business hours and in full view of patients. Additionally, Dr. Yeates committed acts of sexual misconduct on a female staff member, and separately a female patient, while the aforementioned female staff member and female patient were unconscious. Dr. Yeates employs untrained and unlicensed office staff to examine patients, to diagnose medical problems, to prescribe medication, and to administer the medication.

After a closing statement by Mr. Schmidt, the panel of the Board upon a motion made by Dr. Cunningham and seconded by Dr. Edmonson, found that Dr. Yeates' conduct constituted violations of Tennessee Code Annotated Section §63-6-214(b)(1), §63-6-214(b)(3), §63-6-214(b)(4), §63-6-214(b)(5) §63-6-214(b)(12) and §63-6-214(b)(18). A roll call vote adopted the motion unanimously. Dr. Cunningham made a motion to summarily suspend the license of Dr. Yeates to practice medicine in Tennessee. Dr. Edmonson seconded the motion. Dr. Cunningham stated and moved that the suspension was made to protect the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the state of Tennessee. Dr. Edmonson seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously by a roll call vote.

These minutes were ratified by the Board on July 20, 2004.

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